

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

/079 W

-----151530Z 048783 /45

R 151402Z FEB 77

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8539

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMCONSUL ADANA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISTANBUL 0596

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINS, TU

SUBJECT: DISK CELEBRATES ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY

1. REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS UNION CONFEDERATION (DISK) OBSERVED THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING ON FEBRUARY 13 WITH WELL-ORGANIZED MASS MEETING WHICH FEATURED GUESTS FROM SOVIET AND EAST EUROPEAN LABOR GROUPS. DISK PACKED ISTANBUL'S AMPLE SPORT AND EXHIBITION PALACE BY BUSSING IN MEMBERS FROM OUTLYING PROVINCES, AND CAPACITY CROWD GAVE ENTHUSIASTIC DEMONSTRATION OF STRENGTH OF THIS TURKEY'S SECOND LARGEST NATIONAL LABOR CONFEDERATION. ISTANBUL IS NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND PRINCIPAL STRONGHOLD OF DISK WHICH CLAIMS, SINCE IT BROKE AWAY IN 1967 FROM THE COUNTRY'S MAJOR CONFEDERATION TURK-IS, TO HAVE GROWN FROM 30,000 MEMBERS WITH FIVE UNIONS TO MEMBERSHIP OF HALF A MILLION WITH 26 UNIONS. UNION MEMBERSHIP FIGURES ARE FREQUENTLY INFLATED AND DISK IS BELIEVED TO ACTUALLY HAVE ABOUT 225,000 DUES-PAYING MEMBERS.

2. MAJOR ADDRESS AT CEREMONY DELIVERED BY DISK  
PRESIDENT KEMAL TURKLER WAS IN LARGE PART WARNING TO "PROGRESSIVE"  
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GROUPS AGAINST THE GATHERING FORCES OF "FASCISM" WHICH ARE ATTEMPTING TO IMPOSE A "FASCIST JUNTA" TO PREVENT 1977 ELECTIONS. HE CALLED FOR CLOSING DOWN THE RIGHT-WING NATIONAL ACTION PARTY AND ITS UNOFFICIAL YOUGH WING THE "IDEALISTIC HEARTHS" WHICH HAVE BEEN HEAVILY INVOLVED IN RECENT STUDENT VIOLENCE. TURKLER ALSO WARNED AGAINST ALLOWING "ADVENTURISTS", "MAOISTS", AND "FRONTISTS" (MEMBERS OF THE TERRORIST TURKISH PEOPLES LIBERATION FRONT)

IN THEIR RANKS.

3. FURKLER WAS FOLLOWED AT PMDIUM BY SUCCESSION OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM FOREIGN LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, MOST OF THEM FROM COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, WHO WERE THERE AS SPECIAL GUESTS OF DISK. SPEAKERS WERE FROM SOVIET UNION, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, BULGARIA, POLAND, CYPRUS, FRANCE AND ITALY. SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES RECEIVED PARTICULARLY WARM RECEPTION. EAST GERMAN PRESENTED DISK GIFT OF 500,000 MARKS. (GDR HAS ALSO REPORTEDLY BEEN ACTIVE IN GIVING DISK LEADERS PLUSH GRANTS FOR STUDY IN EAST GERMANY.) CYPRIOT FROM REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS UNION FEDERATION (DEV-IS) WAS GREETED WITH CHANTS OF "INDEPENDENT CYPRUS" AND "CYPRUS CANNOT BE A NATO BASE."

4. DISK, WHICH SUPPORTS OPPOSITION REPUBLICAN PEOPLES PARTY (RPP) IN UPCOMING ELECTIONS, RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM RPP LEADER BULENT ECEVIT CONGRATULATING CONFEDERATION ON ITS ANNIVERSARY. ATTENDING MEETING WERE VARIOUS RPP NOTABLES INCLUDING ISTANBUL MAYOR AHMET ISVAN, TWO SENATORS AND SEVERAL DEPUTIES, AMONG THEM RPP DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL ALI TOPUZ. EVEN LOCAL JUSTICE PARTY SOURCES CONCEDE ISTANBUL TO THE RPP IN 1977 ELECTIONS, AND FROM DISK'S SHOW OF ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH AT THIS MEETING ECEVIT HAS IN THIS LEFTIST LABOR CONFEDERATION A STRONG AND VALUABLE ALLY FOR DELIVERING A MAJORITY IN THIS PROVINCE.  
BATJER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, PINS, TU, DISK  
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**Review Markings:**  
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